

16-17

The Genitive pgs ~~16-17~~

1. The genitive is the possessor or the owner of a noun in a sentence
2. The genitive answers the question "whose is it?" or "of whom?"

ex. Plato's writings → "whose writings is it?" "It's Plato's writings".

Grandpa's car → "whose car is it?" "It's Grandpa's car."

The land of my ancestors → "what land is that?" "That's the land of my ancestors."

* The genitives in the above examples are underlined.

3. In Latin, the genitive can be translated as:

• of + noun

ex. puellae = of the girl / the girl's

• noun's

coloni = of the farmer / the farmer's

ex. rex Troiae = The king of Troy / Troy's king

principes Graecorum = The princes of the Greeks / The Greeks' princes

imperatoris parmam = The shield of the general / The general's shield

4. The genitive is not the same as an adjective:

ex. rex Troiae ≠ The Trojan king

↑
This is an adjective, and is a different word in Latin.

ex. rex Troiae ← genitive form

rex Troianus ← adjective paired with noun

5. The genitive translation is a sort of 'phrase' in English. Just because it is one word in Latin, doesn't mean it has to be just one word in English.